

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for enabling an electronic
5 information marketplace, the method comprising the steps of:
collecting a request from a buyer for a requested information good,
wherein said request comprises non-textual information;
analyzing the request and the non-textual information to create additional
information from the request;
10 collecting one or more offered information goods from one or more
sellers;
analyzing each of the offered information goods to create additional
information from the information good; and
matching the request with at least one of the offered information goods by
15 matching the additional information from the request with the additional information
from the at least one information good.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of
matching further comprises the step of selecting the at ~~ate~~ least one offered information
20 goods as a best match.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of
matching further comprises the step of matching the request with at least one of the
offered information goods by comparing the additional information from the request and
25 the additional information from the at least one information good and the at least one
offered information good.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of analyzing the
request further comprises the step of analyzing the request to create annotations, and
30 wherein the step of analyzing each of the one or more offered information goods further

comprises the step of analyzing each of the one or more offered information goods to create annotations.

5 (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein each of the annotations
5 comprises one or more of metadata, semantics, syntactic information, summary information, and model information.

6 (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of analyzing the
request further comprises the step of creating at least one inference from the request, and
10 wherein the step of analyzing each of the one or more offered information goods further comprises the step of creating at least one inference from each the offered information goods.

7 (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein each inference is created
15 through deduction, induction, or abduction.

8 (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the step of analyzing the
request further comprises the step of accessing at least one request knowledge model, and
wherein the step of analyzing each of the offered information goods further comprises the
20 step of accessing at least one offered knowledge model.

9 (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of analyzing the
request further comprises the step of accessing at least one request knowledge model, and
wherein the step of analyzing each of the offered information goods further comprises the
25 step of accessing at least one offered knowledge model.

10 (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each of the offered information
goods has a price associated with the information good and wherein the step of matching
further comprises dynamically determining prices of the offered information goods.

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11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the step of dynamically determining prices further comprises the step of creating an influence diagram comprising nodes and arcs, each arc connecting one node with another node.

5 12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the step of dynamically determining prices further comprises the step of updating expectations and probabilities, defined by the influence diagram, through Bayesian updating or a Bayes linear method selected from a group consisting of linear Bayes updating and updating with decisions.

10 13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the step of dynamically determining prices further comprises the step of maximizing utility.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each information good comprises a good that can be distributed in digital form.

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15. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of exchanging the at least one offered information good and the requested information good, whereby the buyer has the at least one offered information good and one of the sellers has the requested information good after the exchange.

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16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein:
the step of analyzing the request further comprises the step of annotating the request with annotations comprising one or more of metadata, semantics, syntactic information, summary information, and model information;

25 the step of analyzing each of the offered information goods further comprises the step of annotating each of the information goods with annotations comprising one or more of metadata, semantics, syntactic information, summary information, and model information;

the method further comprises the steps of:

30 determining at least one offer inference from the one or more offered information goods; and

determining at least one request inference from the request; and
the step of matching further comprises the step of matching the request
with at least one of the offered information goods by comparing the request, and
annotations and request inferences of the request, with the offered information goods, and
5 annotations and offer inferences of the offered information goods.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of determining at
least one offer inference further comprises the step of determining the at least one offer
inference by using one or more of an inductive method, a deductive method, and an
10 abductive method.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of selecting
a trading mechanism from a group consisting of fixed-price, price discrimination,
auction, and subscription.

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19. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of
decomposing an offering of one of the offered information goods, and wherein the step of
matching further comprises the step of comparing decompositions of the one offered
information good with the request and the additional information from the request.

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20. (Currently Amended) A system for enabling an electronic information
marketplace, the system comprising:

a memory that stores computer-readable code; and

a processor operatively coupled to the memory, the processor configured
25 to implement the computer-readable code, the computer-readable code configured to:

collect a request from a buyer for a requested information good, wherein
said request comprises non-textual information;

analyze the request and the non-textual information to create additional
information from the request;

30 collect one or more offered information goods from one or more sellers;

analyze each of the offered information goods to create additional information from the information good; and

match the request with at least one of the offered information goods by matching the additional information from the request with the additional information from the at least one information good

21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when analyzing the request, to analyze the request to create annotations, and wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when analyzing each of the one or more offered information goods, to analyze each of the one or more offered information goods to create annotations.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein each of the annotations comprises one or more of metadata, semantics, syntactic information, summary information, and model information

23. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when analyzing the request, to create at least one inference from the request, and wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when analyzing each of the one or more offered information goods, to create at least one inference from each the offered information goods

24. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein each inference is created through deduction, induction, or abduction.

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25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when analyzing the request, to access at least one request knowledge model, and wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when analyzing each of the offered information goods, to access at least one offered knowledge model.

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26. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein each of the offered information goods has a price associated with the information good and wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when matching, to dynamically determine prices of the offered information goods.

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27. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when dynamically determining prices, to create an influence diagram comprising nodes and arcs, each arc connecting one node with another node.

10 28. (Original) The system of claim 27, wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when dynamically determining prices, to update expectations and probabilities, defined by the influence diagram, through Bayesian updating or a Bayes linear method selected from a group consisting of linear Bayes updating and updating with decisions.

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29. (Original) The system of claim 27, wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when dynamically determining prices, to maximize utility.

30. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein each information good
20 comprises a good that can be distributed in digital form.

31. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured to exchange the at least one offered information good and the requested information good, whereby the buyer has the at least one offered information
25 good and one of the sellers has the requested information good after the exchange.

32. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured to decompose an offering of one of the offered information goods, and wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when matching, to compare
30 decompositions of the one offered information good with the request and the additional information from the request.

33. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture for enabling an electronic information marketplace, comprising a machine readable medium containing one or more programs which when executed implement the steps of:

collecting a request from a buyer for a requested information good,
5 wherein said request comprises non-textual information;

analyzing the request and the non-textual information to create additional information from the request;

collecting one or more offered information goods from one or more sellers;

10 analyzing each of the offered information goods to create additional information from the information good; and

matching the request with at least one of the offered information goods by matching the additional information from the request with the additional information from the at least one information good

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34. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein the one or more programs which when executed further implement, when analyzing the request, a step to analyze the request to create annotations, and wherein the computer-readable code means further comprises, when analyzing each of the one or more offered
20 information goods, a step to analyze each of the one or more offered information goods to create annotations.

35. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 34, wherein each of the annotations comprises one or more of metadata, semantics, syntactic information,
25 summary information, and model information.

36. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein the one or more programs which when executed further implement, when analyzing the request, a step to create at least one inference from the request, and wherein the one or
30 more programs which when executed further implement, when analyzing each of the one

or more offered information goods, a step to create at least one inference from each the offered information goods.

37. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein each inference
5 is created through deduction, induction, or abduction.

38. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein the
one or more programs which when executed further implement, when analyzing the
request, a step to of access at least one request knowledge model, and wherein the one or
10 more programs which when executed further implement, when analyzing each of the
offered information goods, a step to access at least one offered knowledge model.

39. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein
each of the offered information goods has a price associated with the information good
15 and wherein the one or more programs which when executed further implement, when
matching, a step to dynamically determine prices of the offered information goods.

40. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 39, wherein the
one or more programs which when executed further implement, when dynamically
20 determining prices, a step to create an influence diagram comprising nodes and arcs, each
arc connecting one node with another node.

41. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 40, wherein the
one or more programs which when executed further implement, when dynamically
25 determining prices, a step to update expectations and probabilities, defined by the
influence diagram, through Bayesian updating or a Bayes linear method selected from a
group consisting of linear Bayes updating and updating with decisions.

42. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 40, wherein the
30 one or more programs which when executed further implement, when dynamically
determining prices, a step to maximize utility.

43. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein each information good comprises a good that can be distributed in digital form.

44. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein the
5 one or more programs which when executed further implement a step to exchange the at least one offered information good and the requested information good, whereby the buyer has the at least one offered information good and one of the sellers has the requested information good after the exchange.

10 45. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein the one or more programs which when executed further implement a step to decompose an offering of one of the offered information goods, and wherein the one or more programs which when executed further implement, when matching, a step to compare decompositions of the one offered information good with the request and the additional
15 information from the request.